

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1064

By Sargent

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ron Davis of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Ron Davis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Ron Davis served with acumen and alacrity as District Attorney General for the Twenty-First District, including Williamson, Lewis, Hickman, and Perry counties; he was elected to this position in 1998 by a landslide vote, gaining a remarkable 80 percent of the vote in Williamson County and almost 70 percent of the total vote across all four counties in the district; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated public servant, Ron Davis maintained his county and judicial district as one of the safest places to live in Tennessee, with a low crime rate and a reputation for tough prosecution; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, he was responsible for the opening of the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center to provide protection and services for physically and sexually abused children, lending his leadership talents as Chairman of the center's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, he also instituted a widely popular and effective methamphetamine education program, personally presenting it at a majority of middle and high schools in his district; and

WHEREAS, Ron Davis developed and expanded the Twenty-First Judicial District Drug Task Force (DTF), which had previously been suffering severe financial difficulties and was short-staffed; under his astute leadership, the agency flourished, the number of narcotics agents increased by nine, and the DTF received recognition as one of the premier drug enforcement agencies in the State; and

WHEREAS, he created a DUI prosecution division within the District Attorney's Office which concentrates on prosecuting alcohol-related driving offenses; his hiring of a DUI prosecutor and DUI coordinator proved to be exceptionally beneficial as the unit has maintained one of the highest conviction rates in the State; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Davis obtained a federal grant to hire a special prosecutor and create a specialized unit to prosecute violent crimes against women; and

WHEREAS, prior to his illustrious tenure as District Attorney General, Mr. Davis rendered sterling service as Assistant District Attorney, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and the community alike for the exemplary quality of his work in handling cases ranging from DUI to Capital Murder; and

WHEREAS, Ron Davis began his career shortly after high school by enlisting in the United States Air Force, in which capacity he bravely served for eight years until his honorable discharge as Staff Sergeant; his service included a one-year tour of duty in Vietnam and Thailand, flying combat missions on AC-47 gunships; and

WHEREAS, a highly decorated officer, Mr. Davis also served his country in the United States Coast Guard Reserve, accruing nearly thirty-six years of military service until his much deserved retirement in 2005; he was a veteran of Vietnam, Operation Desert Storm, the Kosovo operation, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his military service, Mr. Davis served for eight outstanding years as a police officer, primarily as a detective, with the Metro Nashville Police Department, during which time he received his undergraduate degree from Middle Tennessee State University and his law degree from Nashville School of Law, both with honors; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from law school, Ron Davis served as Disciplinary Counsel for the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, devoting four years to investigating and prosecuting attorneys for ethics violations; and

WHEREAS, Ron Davis lent his expertise to his community in numerous professional capacities, including as president of the Williamson County Bar Association and member of the National District Attorney's Association, the Franklin Noon Rotary, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the Reserve Officer's Association of the United States; and

WHEREAS, he was also an active and devout member of Brentwood United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Ron Davis was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, the former Brenda Hanson, and was the proud father of Lee; and

WHEREAS, he will be sorely missed by his three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ron Davis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ron Davis, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, as we pay tribute to his many laudable contributions to the citizens of Tennessee as District Attorney General of the Twenty-First District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Davis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.